HASSAN JEANNE M 10/24/81 135247 PRINTER: LI
80 KINGSTON 3208

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EXCISE

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PAGE 01 KINGST 03208 302053Z
ACTION ARA-15
INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 SY-05 SYE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-02 OPR-02 OC-06
CCO-00 HA-05 /085 W
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O R 291940Z APR 80
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2576
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USINT HAVANA
COMNAVBASE GUANTANAMO BAY CUBA
C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 3208
E.O.12065: GDS 4/30/86 (LAWRENCE L) OR-AMB
TAGS: PINT, JM
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SCENE REMAINS TENSE
1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: ATTACKS BY GUNMEN ON A POLICE STATION, POLICE VEHCILES, PUBLRC BUSES AND PRIVATE HOMES HAVE CONTINUED AS THE WAVE OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN KINGSTON RISES. THE JAMAICA LABOUR PARTY (JLP) HAS CALLED FOR A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING IN HONOR OF THOSE KILLED IN THE POLITICAL CLASHES AND HAS CHARGED THE GOVERNING PEOPLES NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) WITH DELIBERATELY PROVOKING VIOLENCE. THE GOVERNMENT HAS RESPONDED BY CHARGING THE OPPOSITION WITH ATTEMPTING TO INSTIGATE TROUBLE ON THE DAY OF THE FUNERAL AND OF SABOTAGING THE ECONOMY. END SUMMARY.
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3. POLITICAL VIOLENCE HAS CONTINUED AT A SERIOUS LEVEL DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS. THE MOST DISTURBING INCIDENT INVOLVED AN ATTACK ON THE WEST CENTRAL KINGSTON POLICE STATION AT HANNAH TOWN IN WHICH TWO PEOPLE WERE KILLED. THE POLICE INFORMATION CENTER (PIC) REPORTS THAT THE GUNMEN WERE ARMED WITH M16 AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. THIS ATTACK FORCED THE POLICE TO ADOPT IMPROVED SECURITY MEASURES AT THE GHETTO AREA POLICE STATIONS.
4. THE PIC ALSO REPORTED THAT ON MONDAY ONE POLICEMAN AND FOUR CIVILIANS WER SHOT DEAD, 16 HOMES WERE RAZED BY MOLOTOV COCKTAILS , FOUR POLICE PATROL CARS WERE FIRED ON AND ONE PUBLIC TRANSIT BUS WAS EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED. THE BURNED OUT HOMES HAVE LEFT 31 FAMILIES HOMELESS AND THE PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITIES HAVE WITHDRAWN SERVICE FROM ONE OF THE MORE VIOLENT AREAS AS A RESULT OF THE ATTACK ON THE BUS.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY QB DATE 25 JUN 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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5. AS THE VIOLENCE HAS INCREASED SO HAS THE POLICIAL RHETORIC FROM BOTH SIDES, IN THE SATURADY EDITION OF THE DAILY GLEANER, THE JLP PUBLISHED A TWO PAGE AD WARNING JAMAICANS THAT THE RECENT VICLENCE IS A PART OF THE PNP'S POLITICAL STRATEGY. THE AD EVEN INTIMATED THAT THE PNP MIGHT USE THE VIOLENCE TO CANCEL ELECTIONS. THIS HAS BEEN FOLLOWED BY A CALL BY THE OPPOSITION LEADER FOR A DAY OF PEACEFUL, ANTIVIOLENCE PROTEST" ON MAY 1 THE DAY OF THE FUNERAL OF THOSE KILLED ON THE "GOLD STREET MASSACRE" (KINGSTON 2963). THE PRESS RELEASE CLAIMED THAT THE PAST MONTH HAD SEEN A AVERAGE OF ON PNP SUPPORTER MURDERED EACH DAY. SEAGA REITERATED HIS CHARGES THAT THE GOVERMENT WAS NEGLECTING THE ARMED FORCES AND THE POLICE STATION (KINGSTON 3109) SO THAT THE WAY WOULD BE CLEAR FOR THE
PNP'S "GANGS" AND MILITIA" TO ASSUME POLICIAL CONTROL BY POLITICAL TERRORIAMS.
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6. NATIONAL SECURITY DUDLEY THOMPSON RESPONDED TO SEAGA'S CALL BY CHARGING THAT THE OPPOSITION WAS PLANNING A TERROR CAMPAIGN SPEAKING IN PARLIAMENT, THOMPSON SAID THAT JLP SUPPORTER HAD BEEN "THREATENING BUSINESS PEOPLE AND OTHER DECENT MINDED JAMAICANS TO TAKE PARTIN DEMONSTRAIONS. THE NATIONAL SECURITY NINISTERVOWED TO INSURE THAT NO JAMAICAN WOULD BE COERCED INTO CLOSING DOWN A PRODUCTIVE BUSINESS DURING THIS TIME AT JLP CLAIMS THAT "OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS BUGETARY ALLOCATION TO THE SECURITY FORCES HAVE BEEN MORE THAN DOUBLED.
7. [redacted] HE IS MAKING 6(1)ED
EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THURSDAYS (MAY 1) EVENTS PEACFUL NAD REPEATED VIOLENCE RESPONSE IS NOT IN THE JLP'S INTEREST. HE DID SAY THAT THE JLP IS ENDEAVORING TO HAVE EVERYONE STAY HOME. FROM WORK IN A DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY, BUT THAT THIS APPEAL IS BEING DONE INFORMALLY,BY WORD OF MOUTH (JLP ADS IN THE MEDIA DO NOT MENTION THAT STAY AT HOME APPEAL)
8. THE 4PM FUNERAL WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE KINGSTON PARISH CHURCH IN DOWNTOWN KINGSTON AND THEN A PROCESSION WILL GO TO THE MAY PEN CEMENTRY. ABOUT A MILE WEST OF THE CHURCH VLARGE CROWS ARE EXPECTED. BECAUSE OF ANTICPATED TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS WE ARE PLANNING TO KEEP ONLY A SKELETON AMERICAN STAFF IN THE AFTERNOON. WE DO NOT EXPECT ANY
TROUBLE NEAR THE CHANCERY OR US PERSONNEL HOUSING AREAS, WHICH ARE DISTANT AND FUNERAL EVENTS'S BUT WILL MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSLELY AND MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE POLICE.
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